

He thinks the medical profession will have to accept them whether they like it or not.

Now the medical profession in this section are as willing as ever to give free service to the worthy poor, but do not care to run free clinics for the rich in opposition or otherwise to the county health department. I take it from your writings that the problems here are by no means unique, hence I write for suggestions and ask the following questions:

1. Would educational advertising in the daily press signed by the members of the local society or sponsored by the society be looked upon with disfavor, or as unethical by the state society of the American Medical Association?

2. Would educational personal letters written to a physician's clientele be unethical? As for instance, during our epidemic of smallpox a letter might be written to our clientele stating the existence of a virulent epidemic of smallpox, the advantages of vaccination, possibly including some statistics.

I can see some possible dangers in such activities, but please give us some advice as to what we are going to do.

Fraternally yours,

C. MAX ANDERSON, M. D.

The following from an experienced medical writer is pleasing compensation for hours of the most difficult part of editorial work:

"Thank you for your letter which I have just received along with my manuscript. I am very glad to have your comments and suggestions, and will make several alterations and omissions. I always appreciate constructive criticism that is based on an unbiased survey of any particular subject. Frequently it is difficult for an essayist to retain a proper perspective of his subject, being lost rather in a maze encountered by the labor required to accumulate and sift and criticize the material and then incorporate it into a paper. Hence the very great benefit that one derives from the opinions of another."

Madera, California, May 6, 1926.

Dr. Emma W. Pope, Secretary—CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE is a fine publication, and a credit, thanks to you.

You ask us to say how we liked the binding of the last issue. I like it very much indeed. It is in keeping with the material inside and out.

MARY RYERSON BUTIN.

San Rafael, California, May 5, 1926.

Dear Editor—I hereby thank you for giving me the opportunity, by contributing to *Bedside Medicine* for *Bedside Doctors*, to add my small share to the success of our magazine. Those most instructive opinions of the rank and file of the profession in the solution of their various problems are of the greatest value, and I am sure will be greatly appreciated.

J. H. KUSER, M. D.

The Oldest Medical Work in the World—This is the Egyptian papyrus written by a Nile physician 3500 years ago, detailing the methods to be pursued in dealing with fractured bones and head injuries. Forty-eight hypothetical cases are described by the ancient physician and treatment prescribed. Dr. James F. Breasted, the Egyptologist, said that the author showed a knowledge of brain functions which was not rediscovered until the present century. In the forty-eight prescriptions by this medical man, only once does he depart from science or common sense in favor of magic. The New York Historical Society has recently announced its plan for publishing this work.—*New York Medical Week*.

Perhaps the chief risk to which a so-called group system exposes itself is a failure to place responsibility on anything that is tangible. Groups melt like a mirage if things go wrong, and a patient with a wholly justifiable complaint may end up begging somebody's pardon for satisfaction.—Hugh Auchincloss, *Journal A. M. A.*

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Items of Interest by C. B. Pinkham, M. D.,
Secretary-Treasurer

According to the Los Angeles Examiner of March 20, 1926, Miss Rena Amato has brought suit against Dr. W. E. Balsinger for leaving her nose in "a painful and disfigured condition" following an operation. However, Doctor Balsinger has answered by stating that whatever damage may have been done to her nose was due to her failure to return for further treatment as instructed.

The Los Angeles Herald of April 3, 1926, relates that Margery Fleming, who recently brought suit for \$50,000 against W. E. Balsinger, plastic surgeon, for alleged disfiguring scars following an operation, had lost her suit.

An Associated Press dispatch dated Sacramento, March 20, relates that according to James Compton of the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, eighty-two chiropractors have forfeited their licenses to practice in California as a result of failure to pay their license fee.

"Dr." Wilbur LeRoy Cosper, some time since convicted of violation of the Medical Practice Act, who lost his recent appeal, has decided to serve his ninety-day sentence and pay the \$500 fine imposed following his conviction, according to the Oakland Times of April 29, 1926, which further relates that "testimony showed that he conducted the clinic of a score of his cult followers following the period of childbirth, and several witnesses testified that hilarity accompanied his administrations. . . . Prior to his conviction here, Cosper had attracted considerable attention in Oakland, where he conducted boxing bouts at his church. . . ." CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE in a prior issue has published the activities of "Bishop" LeRoy Cosper and his "Christian Philosophical Institute."

Mrs. Hjalmar de Danville, whose custom it is to dress in man's clothes, was found guilty of a charge of violation of the state Medical Practice Act in Superior Judge Harold Louderback's court, and was given a sentence of one year on probation today.—*San Francisco Call*, April 4, 1926.

According to the St. Louis, Missouri, Star of March 26, 1926, Dr. Elihu Fluesmeir, a graduate of the University of Missouri, and for the past thirty years a country doctor at Wright City, "was found guilty of embezzling \$16,000 from his widowed mother-in-law, and his punishment fixed at two years in the penitentiary at Jefferson City."

According to the San Francisco Chronicle of March 31, R. Thompson Fowler of Oakland is again charged with a violation of the Medical Practice Act, and the case has been set for trial June 15 in the court of Superior Judge E. S. Church.

The San Francisco Chronicle of March 27, 1926, relates that Harry G. Henderson, special agent of the Board of Medical Examiners, had brought suit for \$25,000 against Fong Wong, Oakland herb doctor, as the result of a charge which Wong caused to be inserted in the papers, conveying the meaning that Henderson had committed subordination of perjury on the occasion of Fong Wong's trial in Oakland on a charge of violation of the Medical Practice Act.

Walter J. Hendricks (Heinrichs), alleged doctor in Los Angeles, who is stated to have maintained offices in a drug store at Ninth and San Pedro streets, is reported to have been recently arrested by the state pharmacy inspectors on the charge of prescribing morphine without being a duly licensed physician, according to the Los Angeles Examiner of April 29, 1926, which further relates "Doctor Hendricks is declared to have written scores of prescriptions, and the drug store in question is said to have filled them. Police said it was the same drug company that filled a prescription several months ago that is declared to have caused the death of a baby."

According to the St. Louis Star of April 8, 1926, Dr. Ray B. Horton, who was prominently mentioned in connection with the diploma mill exposé, has lost his fight to restrain the Missouri board from hearing a citation to show cause why Horton's license should not be revoked, and the board heard the case on May 6, 1926.

Dr. Lewis T. A. Hotten, founder of the Charity-Anti-